

Exemptions

Responses to requests for agency records under the Freedom of Information Act, the Privacy Act, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Government Performance Results and Accountability Act (GPRA), or similar law.

Correspondence limited to individuals or persons (e.g., correspondence to one or more members of Congress but not posted on the NIH Internet or otherwise disseminated to the public).

Press releases that support or give public notice of information that NIH has disseminated elsewhere.

Archival records and other archival material disseminated by the NIH (e.g., Internet distribution of published articles including PubMed and scientific information from archival tissue and specimen repositories).

Scientific information from NIH employees disseminated by peer reviewed journals (i.e, disseminated by third parties, not by the NIH).

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National Library of Medicine (NLM) databases or other archival records (e.g., GenBank and GenPept, sequence and protein databases, and databases populated with archival records or information), CRISP, and similar databases (e.g., the NIH Intramural Database, ClinicalTrials.gov, CancerNet/PDQ, and other database systems containing information on research projects and programs supported or conducted by the HHS).

Health or safety determinations that are time-sensitive (e.g., findings based primarily on data from a recent clinical trial that was adequately peer reviewed before the trial began). Time-sensitive refers to the need for dissemination to occur because HHS cannot practicably or prudently wait for peer review to occur e.g., (1) addresses potential harm or benefit to health or safety; or (2) meets a statutory, congressional, court-imposed, or other generally immovable deadline.

Information disseminated to the public or submitted for peer review before June 16, 2005.

Question 1

Will your information be
"disseminated" to the
public?

YES

NO

Is it exempt?

YES

NO

Go to
Question 2

STOP

Your information
is not covered by
the Bulletin.

For more examples of information that is not considered an NIH dissemination to the public, visit <http://ospp.od.nih.gov/infoquality/intranet/decisiontrees1-4.asp>

Exemptions

Question 2

Does the information represent the official view of the NIH or an NIH Institute or Center?

YES

NO

Is it a draft document or scientific publication?

YES

NO

Disclaimer?

YES

STOP

Your information is not covered by the Bulletin.

Is it exempt?

NO

YES

NO

Go to Question 3

Draft scientific information that is shared for scientific input prior to peer review or disseminated for the peer review triggered by the Bulletin, provided that they contain a disclaimer as follows: "This information is distributed solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review under the applicable information quality guidelines. It has not been formally disseminated by the NIH. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy."

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Exemptions

Hyperlinks to a Web page of scientific information that others disseminate.

Administrative information and information pertaining to basic agency operations, including information about agency authorities, activities, and programs; program evaluations and strategic planning documents, contact information for the public; organizational charts; and NIH or Institute or Center Directors' Status Reports.

Administrative information provided to grant and contract applicants, including solicitations [program announcements (PAs)/requests for applications (RFAs)]; and receipt and review materials (e.g., information for FACA committees, advisory councils or advisory committee members).

Accounting, budget, actuarial, and financial information, including information generated or used by agencies that focus on interest rates, banking, currency, securities, commodities, futures, or taxes. This includes the Biomedical Research and Development Price Index (BRDPI) and budget documents including Congressional Justification submissions, Congressional Appropriations Committee Reports (CACRs), and Significant Items.

The "scientific information" covered by the Bulletin includes any communication or representation of knowledge such as facts or data, in any medium or form, including textual, numerical graphic, cartographic, narrative or audiovisual forms e.g., scientific papers and presentations, and prevention and treatment information based on scientific findings.

A scientific assessment, or an evaluation of a body of scientific or technical knowledge that typically synthesizes multiple factual inputs, data, models, assumptions, and/or applies best professional judgment to bridge uncertainties in the available information. Scientific assessments include state-of-science reports; technology assessments; weight-of-evidence analyses; meta-analyses; health, safety, or ecological risk assessments; toxicological characterization of substances; integrated assessment models; hazard determinations; and exposure assessments.

Defined within Question 3 text at <http://ospp.od.nih.gov/infoquality/intranet/decisiontrees1-4.asp>

Question 3

Is it "scientific information"?

YES

NO

Is the
information
limited to:?

YES

NO

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Question 4

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